

Sirius/XM Merger

FCC Docket 07-57:

To whom it may concern,

I would first off like to express my appreciation to the FCC - and all of those associated -for giving the public, American consumers, the chance to weigh in on this very important issue of whether or not Sirius and XM satellite radio should be allowed to merge. As an American consumer it is very important to have an organization such as the FCC to look out for and protect the public from potentially hazardous synergies within the corporate make-up of American society.

However much I deem the FCC to be a vital and necessary organization, I can't, for the life of me, understand the apprehension evolving from the possibility of this merger between two satellite radio companies. It is indeed a fact that Sirius and XM are the only two satellite radio companies, but the fact still remains that the FCC is in place to ensure that the American consumer's needs and benefits remain first and foremost in deciding what is best for them. With that said, I fail to see the downside of a merger between these two companies.

It is painfully obvious from a consumer standpoint, that although the aforementioned companies are the only two within the satellite radio industry, they are by no means the only competitive medium offering radio type entertainment. This can clearly be assessed by the amount of money and time that the NAB is expending to thwart this merger. Logically, from an economic standpoint, it would stand to reason that the NAB would welcome such a merger. This would guarantee that they would retain their current market share of consumers within terrestrial radio when satellite raised prices enough to scare American consumers away.

I must say that it is very disturbing to see that such a matter as satellite radio and a potential merger can, and did, become such a political issue with Congress, apparent in their tie-up of this issue for a record amount of time. In the last eight years many mergers were accepted (i.e. ExxonMobil, ATT/SBC) and although they were not creating a monopoly per se, they were definitely detrimental to the American consumer from an economic standpoint.

I think it naïve and self-serving of Congress and the FCC if these two companies are not allowed to combine and utilize inherent synergies that would only stand to make a more beneficial, economical, and consumer driven

form of radio entertainment. Satellite radio is, after all, a luxury and the American consumer can choose to, or not to, pay for such entertainment. I would like to add that I am a paying customer of Sirius satellite radio and welcome the thought of this merger as it can only benefit me in the form of content, cost savings and structure.

Chad Auchey